Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies and thoughtful treatment afforded to their undersigned attorney during a telephone interview conducted on January 14, 2009. As a result of the interview, the following actions were agreed upon, and have been implemented, as set out in the above amendments to the claims.

First, with respect to the rejection of Claim 33 under § 101, Claim 33 has been amended to specify a "storage" memory medium, thereby differentiating even more clearly from non-statutory subject matter such as pure signals or carrier waves.

Second, with respect to the § 112 rejection of Claims 29 and 30, the Examiner agreed that she had entered rejections of these claims unintentionally.

Accordingly, Claims 29 and 30 are seen to be fully in condition for allowance.

Third, with respect to the § 112 rejections of Claims 31 and 32, Claim 31 has been amended so as to specify that the sending component operates in a cable head end (CHE) and that the receiving component operates in a set top box (STB). In addition, at the suggestion of the Examiner, new Claims 34 and 35 have been added, in which these roles are reversed.

These actions have been taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of any of the rejections, which are respectfully traversed.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.